

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 553 without my signature.

As stated in the veto messages of similar bills, the disposal of this property and other surplus property should be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Historically, these properties have generally been exempt from the CEQA process and this bill is no exception. However, I am sympathetic to the goals of the bill and I am directing the Department of General Services to work with the author to craft a bill that would meet the objective and protect the best interests of the State.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill, at this time.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger